

RESOLUTION NUMBER 72
HONORING ALEXANDER GARZA, M. D.

WHEREAS, the City of St. Louis Board of Aldermen pauses in our deliberations to honor and thank Dr. Alexander Garza and the St. Louis Metropolitan Pandemic Task Force for their outstanding and selfless work in caring for our residents and leading our region during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Alex Garza is the Incident Commander of the St. Louis Metropolitan Pandemic Task Force; the St. Louis Metropolitan Pandemic Task Force is a collaboration between the area's largest health care systems, working together to prepare for a coming surge of patients and provide the best possible care; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Garza also serves as the Chief Community Health Officer of SSM Health; Dr. Garza has decades of experience in public health, quality and safety and policy development; He has organized and led SSM Health's overall response to the COVID-19 pandemic before assuming the role of Incident Commander for the St. Louis Metropolitan Pandemic Task Force, overseeing the region's coordinated response efforts; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Garza is Board-certified in emergency medicine, Dr. Garza has over 13 years practicing and teaching in higher education; Before joining SSM Health, he was an Associate Dean and Professor at the Saint Louis University College of Public Health and Social Justice; He has published numerous scientific papers on original research in peer reviewed journals and lectured nationally and internationally; and

WHEREAS, previously, he served as Assistant Secretary and Chief Medical Officer to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security; He legislated health, medical and biodefense authority for the DHS and played a critical role in protecting the US from threats of terrorism; Dr. Garza is also a Colonel with over 20 years of service in the US Army Reserves; He is a veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom and serves as the Command Surgeon for the 352 Civil Affairs Command; He has received numerous awards for his service including the Bronze Star and the Combat Action Badge.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we thank Dr. Alexander Garza for his dedication to our community in leading and coordinating the region's response to the COVID-19 global pandemic. We further direct the Clerk of this Board to spread a copy of this Resolution across the minutes of these proceedings and to prepare a commemorative copy to the end that it may be presented to our honoree at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced this 4th day of December, 2020

The Honorable Lewis E. Reed, President St. Louis City Board of Aldermen

The Honorable Marlene Davis, 19th Ward

The Honorable Shameem Clark-Hubbard, 26th Ward

The Honorable Joseph Roddy, Alderman 17th Ward

Adopted this 4th day of December as attested by:

Terry Kennedy
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen